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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7165
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE
RUEILB/NCTC WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T BEIJING 001792

STPDTS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/09/2028 TAGS: PTER PREL PINR CH

SUBJECT: PRC COUNTERTERRORISM OFFICIALS WANT TO VISIT THE

U.S. NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER

REF: A. BEIJING 01159

1B. BEIJING 01160

¶C. BEIJING 01165

1D. BEIJING 01166

Classified By: Classified by Political Regional Unit Chief Mark Tesone. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 4.
- 12. (S) MFA External Security Affairs Department Director Xia Jingge told PolOffs May 8 that Chinese counterterrorism officials are interested in visiting the U.S. National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC). Recalling the March 25 U.S.-China Counterterrorism Dialogue in Beijing (reftels), Xia said Ambassador at Large for Counterterrorism Dell Dailey had graciously offered such a visit during his discussions with MFA International Organizations and Conferences Department Director General Wu Hailong. Xia asked if the invitation is still open. Chinese officials are also interested in U.S. briefings on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazards and in conducting a biological terrorism table-top exercise with U.S. officials, he noted, but thought a visit to the NCTC might be a first step.
- 13. (S) PolOff promised to convey Xia's inquiry to Washington and noted that the United States during the Counterterrorism Dialogue also stated our interest in working with China to ensure bilateral information sharing and cooperation on counterterrorism issues are two-way exchanges. Xia said China attaches great importance to its counterterrorism relations with the United States and would like to strengthen bilateral cooperation.
- ¶4. (S) Action Request: Post requests Department assistance in responding to Xia's query about PRC officials visiting the NCTC.
- 15. (C) Note: Xia told us responsibility for bilateral, regional and multilateral counterterrorism issues was recently transferred from the International Organizations (IO) Department to the MFA External Affairs Department, although the IO Department will continue to handle UN-related counterterrorism issues. Xia and his deputy, Wu Shifan, are both new to the External Affairs Department. Xia worked previously on human rights issues in the IO Department and Wu was a Political Officer in the Chinese Embassy in Washington. According to Xia, his office is comprised of seven officers. RANDT